

the marquee • act 2 • scene 2

DECEMBER 1975

PARTIALLY FUNDED BY A GRANT FROM THE KANSAS ARTS COMMISSION

AMERICAN COLLEGE THEATRE FESTIVAL

Emporia Kansas State College will host the 1976 Central Region American College Theatre Festival, February 4-7. Speech Department Chairman Karl C. Bruder, and Director of Theatre James D. Kriley are planning a festival to match well the bicentennial year celebration. American Theatre will be spotlighted by a host of American productions, and a program of outstanding workshop leaders, critics, and distinguished guests. These will include Jo Meilziner and John Jensen, American designers; Robert E. Lee, American playwright; Richard Coe, drama critic, Washington Post; Sylvia Drake, drama critic, Los Angeles Times; Vera Roberts, theatre administrator, Hunter College; Ron Wilson, mime artist. Others will be announced.

The festival will feature four selected college and university productions by American playwrights; four follow-up critique sessions, original play readings and critiques, public auditions for the Irene Ryan Acting Scholarship Awards, and four days of workshops devoted to acting, voice, mime, movement, and design, featuring professionals from the American theatre.

Special attraction will be a four-day lecture-discussion series featuring each day a prominent playwright, designer, director, and actor.

For further information and registration materials, write: American College Theatre Festival, Central Region, Speech & Theatre Department, Emporia Kansas State College, Emporia, Kansas 66801. □

ON THE ROAD WITH TWINK AND PAM

Twink Lynch, President of the Kansas Community Theatre Conference, and Pam Bosanko, an intern with the Kansas Arts Commission, continue their junket through Kansas to visit, help stimulate, and gather ideas from community theatre groups. The project is funded in part by KAC. Their schedule since September has taken them so far to community theatres in Concordia, Salina, Manhattan, Junction City, Parsons, Council Grove, Topeka, Winfield, Fort Scott, Atchison, Johnson County, Wichita, Great Bend, Dodge City, Oberlin, Abilene, McPherson, Waterville, Wichita, and Augusta.

Twink says they have heard from or about community theatre groups in the following towns and will visit them beginning in January: Fredonia, Hutchinson, Independence, Iola, Kingman, Lawrence, Newton, Neodesha, Olathe, Paola, Stafford, Valley Center, Verdigris Valley (Madison), and Wellington.

They have not heard from Coffeyville, Columbus, Highland, Marysville, and Rice County (Lyons).

Trucking around the state, Pam and Twink have distributed a list of important dates, reprinted here. Community Theatre people take note: **February 27-28-29:** American Community Theatre Association winter Board Meeting, Topeka Holiday Inn Downtown. All KCTC people invited. **March 12-13-14:** Association of Kansas Theatre Convention, Wichita Holiday Inn, Garvey Plaza. **March 13:** Kansas Community Theatre Conference annual business meeting, in conjunction with the AKT convention. **April 30, May 1-2:** Region V (Mid-America) Community Theatre conference, Spring Hill Conference Center, Wayzata, Minnesota. **Mid August 1976:** American Theatre Association in Los Angeles, preceded by an American Community Theatre Association "Float" from San Francisco to L.A. **Spring 1977:** KCTC State Festival will choose play to represent Kansas in regional and national FACT '77 (FESTIVAL OF AMERICAN COMMUNITY THEATRE). Nation winner represents U.S. at the International Festival of Community Theatre, in Monaco.

Following is an update for community theatre productions:

ABILENE

LIFE WITH FATHER, Nov. 20-21-22

CONCORDIA

(Brown Grand Community Players)

SPOON RIVER ANTHOLOGY, YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU, DIRTY WORK AT THE CROSSROADS, 4th and 5th shows to be decided. No dates available.

IOLA

BUTTERFLIES ARE FREE, Nov. 21-22; HELLO, DOLLY!, Mar. 17-18-19-20; THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS, June 4-5.

JOHNSON COUNTY

Parks & Recreation District
MUSIC MAN, Summer, 1976.

MANHATTAN

CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN, Jan. 22-23-24-25; MAN FOR ALL SEASONS, Mar. 4-5-6-7; BLYTHE SPIRIT, Apr. 22-23-24-25.

McPHERSON

AN EVENING WITH O. HENRY, Nov. 7-8.

TOPEKA

(Topeka Civic Theatre)

A special THEATRE IN CONCERT series has been added to Topeka Civic Theatre's regular season: DON JUAN IN HELL, Nov. 25-26, Dec. 3; THE TROJAN WOMEN, Jan. 13-14, 21; THE BOOK OF JOB, Mar. 2-3, 10.

Anyone interested in renting costumes, contact Mona Kessinger of Junction City Little Theatre, Box 328, Junction City, KS 66441.

Winfield Community Theatre will rent their costumes from A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC. Contact Judy Gentry, Winfield Community Theatre, Route 3, Winfield, KS 67156.

Crown Players has nine identical gowns from their production of HOW TO SUCCEED IN BUSINESS WITHOUT REALLY TRYING. Contact: Ted Morris, The Crown Players, 746 Harvard, El Dorado, KS 67042.

Your KCTC President is on the Program Planning Committee for the AKT Convention. If you have any suggestions for this convention, let Twink know (1334 Lakeside Drive, Topeka, KS 66604).

Says Twink, "To those Pam and I have already met, we send a big hello. To those we've not yet visited, we look forward to meeting you, and to those we've seen who still have not sent in your questionnaire, had you considered giving a questionnaire for Christmas? Or New Year's? —Break a leg, everybody!" ☐

CONTINENTAL THEATRE COMPANY

Chairman of AKT's professional theatre division is Wesley Van Tassel, producer of the Continental Theatre Company of Wichita, and he is keeping at least two touring groups busy. One is doing 1776 during the Bi-centennial year. It will be performed February 24-27 for the Wichita public schools, April 1 in Pratt, Kansas, and April 3 in Hays. The other is touring GOSPELL, CANNON IN THE PARK, and DAMES AT SEA in repertory, with the following schedule: January 4-16, GODSPELL — Wichita Public Schools; Jan. 15 — Public performance of GODSPELL at Pleasant Valley Jr. High in Wichita; CANNON IN THE PARK and DAMES AT SEA: Arkansas City — April 9, Council Grove — April 14, Hiawatha — April 22; DAMES — Concordia, April 11, and CANNON — Augusta, April 20. ☐

AUDITIONS AND SEASON SLATED

The ADULT COMMUNITY THEATRE is a division of the Topeka Recreation Commission. Eldon Harding, Theatre Director, who completed the current season in early November with COME BACK LITTLE SHEBA, announced the following season schedule for 1976:

COMPANY — February 5-8, 12-15, 19-21; VERONICA'S ROOM — May 21-22, 27-29, and June 3-5; FASHION (a musical comedy of manners) — September 2-5, 9-12, 16-18; and A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE — November 12-13, 18-20, 26-27.

Audition dates for these plays are: COMPANY — December 28-29, VERONICA — April 11-12, FASHION — July 25-26, and STREETCAR — October 3-4.

AKT MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Your support through AKT membership is causing observable growth in theatre interest, activity, and awareness in Kansas, and of course that support must continue. The time has come for current members to renew their memberships for the coming year. A regular membership is still five dollars, students, three dollars, and organizational memberships are fifteen. Renewal now will carry on through December 31, 1976. Just use the form on page four, check the box marked "renewal" and send it with a check to: AKT, 201. Humanities Bldg., Emporia Kansas State College, Emporia, Kansas 66801. If you are not yet a member, just check the "new" box, and please join us in an effort to "make it happen" for theatre in Kansas. ☐

RELIGIOUS THEATRE

Dr. Norman J. Feder, associate professor of speech and theatre at Kansas State University, and head of AKT's division of Religious, Recreation, and Army Theatre, has been active on many fronts, and especially in the realm of religious theatre. At the national convention in Washington, D.C., he successfully revived the religious Theatre Project of UCTA of the American Theatre Association. The chief order of business there was threefold: 1. Communication — determining the nature and extent of religious theatre activity throughout the country; 2. Bibliography — an annotated listing of plays and books; 3. Convention panels and activity — "What is Religious Theatre?", "Writing for Religious Theatre" and performances by invited religious theatre groups from the Los Angeles area.

Dr. Feder has been elected First Vice-president of The Ecumenical Council for Drama and the Arts—a ten year old organization devoted to religious theatre which has done much work in the mid-west. He attended their annual convention in Wisconsin this past summer. ☐

get on **THE MARQUEE**

Send news items to:
Editor, Marquee
201 Humanities Bldg.
EKSC
Emporia, Kansas 66801

Upon the request of the Kansas Association of the Religious Communities, the Arts and the American Revolution (of which he is president-elect), Dr. Feder has compiled a Readers Theatre script entitled "The Matter With Kansas" through a bicentennial commission grant. Featuring significant and colorful Kansas historical personages, the piece will be performed throughout the state during the bicentennial year. The script is available without royalty to anyone in Kansas who wishes to produce it. He also has an idea for the development of a value-centered traveling readers theatre—"The American Issues Theatre"—which might be sponsored by the Kansas Committee for the Humanities.

Dr. Feder is attempting to determine the extent of religious theatre activity in Kansas, and would appreciate hearing from any group of this nature. ☐

AKT CONVENTION COMMITTEE

The Second Annual Convention of the Association of Kansas Theatre is slated for March 12-14 at Wichita's Garvey Plaza Holiday Inn. Members of the program planning committee (who are working to top the highly successful first convention held in Topeka last April) include: Lloyd Frerer, Fort Hays Kansas State College, Chairman; John Boldenow, Emporia State College, student representative to the AKT executive committee; Joyce Cavarozzi, Wichita State University, in charge of local arrangements for the convention; Ronald Q. Frederickson of Emporia State, AKT Executive Secretary; and Twink Lynch, President, Kansas Community Theatre Conference. A planning meeting of the group was held at the Garvey Plaza in Wichita on December 6, giving them an opportunity to check convention rooms and facilities. ☐

BOOKING CONFERENCE SCHEDULED

A new kind of conference is slated for February 6 and 7 at the Kansas State University Student Union in Manhattan. It's called A PERFORMING ARTS BOOKING CONFERENCE, and is for performing artists in Kansas and elsewhere, who want to be booked; for organizations or individuals who want to book them, and or all others who would like to see a variety of performances in theatre, dance, music, mime, and almost whatever else.

Performing groups and individuals to be featured at the conference include: The Kansas City Ballet, and the Westport Ballet, Kansas City; Theatre X Inc., Milwaukee; Fairmount Dance Theatre, Cleveland; Section Ten Theatre, New York; Dinglefest Theatre, Chicago; several mime artists, including Ron Wilson of Wichita, Michael Hennessy of Minneapolis, Serrand et Berleaux, also of Minneapolis, and David Alberts of Washington, D.C.; the Mid-America Woodwind Quintet, Emporia; the Educational Theatre Company, Emporia; Zina Schiff, violinist, of Berkeley) Sedmara Zakarian Futshtein, pianist, Philadelphia, and many others. The conference is sponsored by the Kansas Arts Commission, and hosted by the Manhattan Arts Council in conjunction with the Dance, Theatre, and Music Departments of Kansas State University. Featured guest speaker for the conference is author and arts consultant Ralph Burgard of Scarsdale, N.Y. For information and registration materials write Pam Bosanko, Kansas Arts Commission, 117 West 10th, Suite 100, Topeka, Kansas 66612.

JOIN AKT!

**COMPLETE FORM ON
REVERSE SIDE AND MAIL
WITH CHECK TO:**

ASSOCIATION OF KANSAS THEATRE

**201 Humanities Bldg.
Emporia Kansas State College
Emporia, Kansas 66801**

**AKT
1976 CONVENTION
March 11, 12, 13
HOLIDAY INN (Plaza)
WICHITA**

10899 'SVASNSK 'VIA
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COMMUNITIES BUILDING
202
ASSOCIATION OF KANSAS THEATRE

ASSOCIATION OF KANSAS THEATRE Membership Application

Name _____

Address _____

Contact person (if organization)

Division (check one):

____ Community theatre ☐ New Membership

____ Childrens theatre

☐ Renewal

____ Professional theatre

____ Secondary School theatre

____ Religious, Recreation, & Army

____ University & College theatre

____ Comm. & Jr. College theatre

*Dues: Regular \$ 5.00 _____
Student \$ 3.00 _____
Organization \$15.00 _____

*Dues paid now apply to calendar year 1976

Checks payable to ASSOCIATION OF KANSAS THEATRE